



County of San Diego

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY

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Maternal, Child and Family Health Services
Public Health Laboratory
PH Nursing
Border Health
TB Control & Refugee Health
Vital Records

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BASE STATION PHYSICIANS' COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, November 20, 2012

Members Present

Dunford, M.D., Jim – City of San Diego EMS
Grad, M.D., Michele – Palomar BHMD
Haynes, M.D., Bruce – County EMS
Kahn, M.D., Chris – UCSD
Klingensmith, Todd – S.D. Paramedic Association
Kramer, M.D., Mark – Sharp Memorial BHMD
Linnik, M.D., Bill – Sharp Grossmont BHMD
Meadows-Pitt, R.N., Mary – Sharp Grossmont BHNC
Miller, M.D., Alexander - NMCS
Reilly, M.D., Ian – Scripps La Jolla BHMD
Wang, M.D. Marcus – Scripps Mercy BHMD

County Staff

Smith, R.N., Susan

Recorder

Loginov, Clara

In Attendance

Aker, R.N., Donna Kelly – UCSD ROC
Allington, R.N., Linda – Carlsbad Fire
Anderson, R.N., Marilyn – Vista Fire
Bennett, Donald – USMC EMS/NHCP
Bourdon, R.N., Darlene – Scripps Mercy BHNC

In Attendance (con'd)

Cavanaugh, Mary – Miramar Fire
Clark, M.D., Rick – UCSD/Poison Control
Dotson, R.N., Melody – UCSD
Duffy, Jennifer – Escondido/San Marcos
Egleston, Clint – Southwestern College
Graydon, R.N., Cheryl – Palomar BHNC
Harley, M.D., Jim – Rady Children's Hospital
Healy, R.N., Marla – Sharp Memorial
Hitchcock, Kevin – Poway Fire Department
Howard, M.D., James – UCSD EMS Fellow
Hudnet, R.N., Carlen – Rural/Metro Ambulance
Idman-Gervais, R.N., Dianne – Sharp Grossmont
Lemire, Harold – San Diego Fire Department
McCabe, R.N., Joshua – Sharp Memorial Hospital
Nichols, Dave – Federal Fire
Ninberg, R.N., Lori – Rady Children's Hospital
Ochs, R.N., Ginger – S.D. Fire Department
Rosenberg, R.N., Linda – Sharp Memorial BHNC
Rosenberger, R.N., Wendy – Tri-City Medical Ctr.
Russo, R.N., Joe – Rural/Metro/CSA-17
Sapida, R.N., Juliet – UCSD
Seabloom, R.N., Lynne – Oceanside Fire
Sullivan, Don – AMR
Webb, Lynette – Rady Children's Hospital
Wells, R.N., Christine – Scripps La Jolla

I. CALL TO ORDER/INTRODUCTIONS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Michele Grad, M.D., called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m. The attendees introduced themselves.

Joshua McCabe, R.N., who is the ED Manager at Sharp Memorial Hospital, was introduced by Linda Rosenberg, R.N.

Ian Reilly, M.D., announced that he would no longer be attending the BSPC and PAC meetings in 2013. Christopher Wiesner, M.D., will be taking his place on behalf of Scripps La Jolla.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Bill Linnik, M.D., to approve the minutes from October 16, 2012, seconded by Marcus Wang, M.D. Motion carried.

III. POISON CONTROL DISCUSSION (Richard Clark, M.D.) – *This item taken out of order*

- A. Richard Clark, M.D., of Poison Control and UCSD gave a brief background on the uses of activated charcoal.
- B. Most studies suggest that to be effective, charcoal should be administered within an hour of ingestion. It is often worth administering charcoal after an even longer period, however, especially in the case of sustained release drugs.
- C. Poison Control has been working out issues to make calling them more efficient and less time consuming. In the United States, Poison Control receives approximately 300,000 calls each year. It was suggested that less information be required of someone calling during an emergency situation, which Dr. Clark agreed would help with expediting these calls.
- D. Because there are four regional centers for Poison Control in California, there may sometimes be misunderstandings about San Diego County's use of Poison Control for administering treatments, such as charcoal.
- E. The primary risk of activated charcoal is aspiration, and because of this, altered mental status is a major contraindication of administering charcoal.
- F. The treatment for jellyfish stings was also briefly discussed. Vinegar is typically used for treatment, and is kept at most lifeguard stations, but Dr. Clark cited a review that shows effectiveness of vinegar depends on the type of jellyfish. Scraping away the jellyfish tentacles should be effective no matter the type of jellyfish, and using salt water to maintain pH minimizes pain. Heat may work for treating pain for some jellyfish stings. Topical anesthetics are also effective for pain.

- G. The use of continuous positive airway pressure (CPAP) for treating carbon monoxide poisoning was mentioned, and Dr. Clark did not know this to be a proven treatment, apart from oxygen, or one that had been studied to show having positive effects.

IV. MEDICAL DIRECTOR'S REPORT (Bruce Haynes, M.D.)

- A. The Border Patrol is our first Advanced EMT (AEMT) provider, starting December 1, 2012. The AEMT scope of practice includes the administration of IVs and up to seven medications. They will use existing treatment protocols and follow them just to the point within their scope of practice. Given the isolated areas in which the Border Patrol operates, we believe this will provide earlier treatment for patients. This will begin on December 1, 2012.
- B. As we head into the flu/viral season the Capacity Plan has been reviewed. Some changes have been made in the surveillance and it should be distributed in the near future.
- C. There have been few cases of influenza in the community so far this season, and those cases have been sporadic, as shown through surveillance of emergency room visits and laboratory testing.
- D. It is important for healthcare workers to be vaccinated against the flu. EMS workers can easily transmit illnesses to patients when they are asymptomatic, and as their patients are often vulnerable groups, the need for vaccines is all the more crucial. The flu vaccine is still available for this season.
- E. The state is continuing to issue proposed regulations. EMS for children and paramedic regulations are now closed for comment, but STEMI system and stroke system regulations are still out. Stroke regulations include comprehensive stroke center information. Changes to the EMT regulations were just released.
- F. Hospira, a major medication manufacturer and supplier to field providers, renewed their license for morphine carpjects, but did not renew the license for intramuscular morphine, only intravenous. The medication has not changed, only the licensing. County EMS is investigating options. Different manufacturers have IV/IM available in vials, which can be used in the meantime.
- G. Policy S-415 for base reports was discussed at the last BSPPC meeting after a presentation on rapid radio reports. This will be discussed by County EMS and possible changes made based on the information gathered for the presentation.
- H. The Emergency Medical Oversight Commission (EMOC) has taken on the issue of opioid abuse and the unnecessary prescribing of opioids. They will be meeting again in February 2013 to discuss this topic.
- I. EMOC also discussed offload delays at their conference. County EMS will work with hospitals to see what can be done to monitor and document offload delays.

J. Protocols are being updated for the new year, and the protocol committee has had two meetings thus far. They anticipate having one or two more meetings.

K. Assembly Bill 1803, which applies the prudent layperson definition to patients in Medi-Cal fee-for-service programs, passed the California State Legislature. This will increase reimbursements to emergency physicians for services for these patients.

V. SAN DIEGO HEALTHCARE DISASTER COUNCIL (Linda Rosenberg, R.N.)

A. The statewide disaster drill took place on November 15, and the debriefing for this will take place during their December meeting, and will include all hospitals that participated in the drill.

VI. BEACON UPDATE (Gary Vilke, M.D.)

Dr. Vilke was not at the meeting; there was no Beacon update.

VII. ROC (Jim Dunford, M.D. for Gary Vilke, M.D. & Dan Davis, M.D.)

A. There was a recent biannual meeting for all Resuscitation Outcomes Consortium (ROC) members. Data from the Biomarker Lactate Assessment of Shock in Trauma (BLAST) study, which are being analyzed, was discussed.

B. The only current study in San Diego is the Amiodarone, Lidocaine, or placebo study (ALPS), which is going well, but has required some extra training for personnel.

C. San Diego may participate in an upcoming study looking at the effects of estrogen on traumatic brain injury.

VIII. OTHER BUSINESS

A. The City of San Diego would like to implement the use of topical combat gauze. This type of gauze will be used by the Sheriff's Department, in addition to the San Diego Police Department. Because law enforcement will be adopting combat gauze as a first aid measure, it was suggested that emergency medical personnel be trained on its uses.

IX. SET NEXT MEETING/ADJOURNMENT

The next meeting is scheduled for January 15, 2013 in the Sharp Spectrum Auditorium. There is no meeting in December.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:52 p.m.